LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method for isolating macromolecules comprising:

partially melting an inner wall of a test tube;

coating the partially melted [[an]] inner wall of the [[a]] test tube with a plurality ~~defined quantity~~ of beads;

coating the beads with a capture reagent of the macromolecule of interest;

incubating the coated beads with a solution containing the macromolecule under conditions to allow binding of the macromolecule to the binding partner;

washing the coated beads with the bound macromolecule with a wash buffer to remove unbound material while maintaining binding of the macromolecule to the binding partner; and

eluting the macromolecule from the binding partner.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the beads are glass microbeads.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, where in the beads are polymer microbeads.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the microbeads are agarose.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the binding partner is attached to the beads by at least one linker molecule.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the linker molecule is aminopropyltriethyoxysilane ~~aminopropyltriethyoxysaline~~.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the linker molecule is cyanogen bromide.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein in the linker molecule is a chemical cross-linking agent.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the cross-linking agent is dimethyl suberimidate.

10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the linker molecule is an antibody.

11. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the linker molecule is protein A or protein G.

12. (Original) The method as in claim 1, wherein the wash buffer is removed by inversion of the tube.

13 - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) A method for isolating guanine nucleotide-binding proteins for determination of guanine nucleotide ratios comprising:

partially melting an inner wall of a test tube;

coating the partially melted [[an]] inner wall of the [[a]] test tube with a plurality ~~defined quantity~~ of glass beads wherein the beads have a surface;

reacting the beads with an agent to modify the surface of the beads to provide a plurality of free amino groups;

reacting the free amino groups on the beads with a bifunctional amine cross-linker to provide a plurality of sites for binding a guanine nucleotide-binding protein binding partner;

incubating the coated beads with a solution containing the guanine nucleotide-binding protein under conditions to allow binding of the guanine nucleotide-binding protein to the binding partner while inhibiting nucleotide hydrolysis or release;

washing the coated beads with the bound guanine nucleotide-binding protein with a wash buffer to remove unbound material while maintaining binding of the guanine-nucleotide binding protein to the binding partner and inhibiting nucleotide hydrolysis and release;

releasing the bound nucleotide from the guanine-nucleotide binding protein; and

determining the ratio of guanine nucleotides released from the guanine nucleotide-binding proteins.

27. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

heating a plurality of beads to a temperature sufficient to partially melt the inner wall of the tube;

contacting the heated beads with the inner wall of the tube; and

partially melting the inner wall of the tube using the heated beads.

28. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the inner wall of the tube is partially melted using a heat gun.

29. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the inner wall of the tube is partially melted using infrared irradiation.

30. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the inner wall of the tube is partially melted using a filament.

31. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the tube is a microcentrifuge tube.

32. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the tube comprises a polymeric material.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the tube is polypropylene.

34. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the tube is polystyrene.

35. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the macromolecule is a protein, peptide, nucleic acid, carbohydrate, or polymer.

36. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the macromolecule is a protein.

37. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the macromolecule is a polynucleotide.